

State of New Hampshire
By Her Excellency
Margaret Wood Hassan, Governor
A Proclamation

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK
OCTOBER 6-12, 2013

WHEREAS, The State of New Hampshire is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our state; and

WHEREAS, Fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

WHEREAS, Home fires killed more than 2,500 people in the United States in 2011, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to 370,000 home fires; and

WHEREAS, Cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States where fire departments responded to more than 156,000 cooking-related fires annually between 2007 and 2011; and

WHEREAS, Two of every five home fires start in the kitchen and unattended equipment was a factor in one-third of the reported cooking fires; and

WHEREAS, In 2012, kitchen fires in the State of New Hampshire resulted in 118 structure fires, 17 civilian injuries, and two civilian fatalities. 57 percent of non-fatal home-cooking-fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves; and

WHEREAS, Children under five years of age face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire residents should stay in the kitchen when frying food on the stovetop, keep a three-foot kid-free zone around cooking areas, and keep anything that can catch fire away from stove tops; and

WHEREAS, Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half and residents who have planned and practiced a home-fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home-fire injuries through prevention, protection, and education; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, The 2013 **Fire Prevention Week** theme, "Prevent Kitchen Fires!", effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and use caution when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARGARET WOOD HASSAN, Governor of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim the week of **OCTOBER 6-12, 2013**, as **FIRE PREVENTION WEEK** in New Hampshire and urge all citizens to check their kitchens for fire hazards, use safe cooking practices, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of New Hampshire fire and emergency services.

Given this 23rd day of September, in the year of
Our Lord two thousand and thirteen, and the
independence of the United States of America, two
hundred and thirty-eight.



Margie Hassan

Margaret Wood Hassan
Governor